

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 March 2004 (04.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/018217 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B41J 3/407**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2002/026384

(22) International Filing Date: 20 August 2002 (20.08.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicants and

(72) Inventors: **KOFMAN, Leonid** [US/US]; 35 Seacoast Terrace, Apt. 15L, Brooklyn, NY 11235 (US). **CHERNOV, Yuri, D.** [US/US]; 2448 East 22nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11235 (US). **KLEYMAN, Gennady, I.** [US/US]; 1209 East 19th Street, Suite 3A, Brooklyn, NY 11230 (US).

(74) Agents: **KATESHOV, Yuri et al.**; Dilworth & Barrese, LLP, 333 Earle Ovington Blvd., Uniondale, NY 11553 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

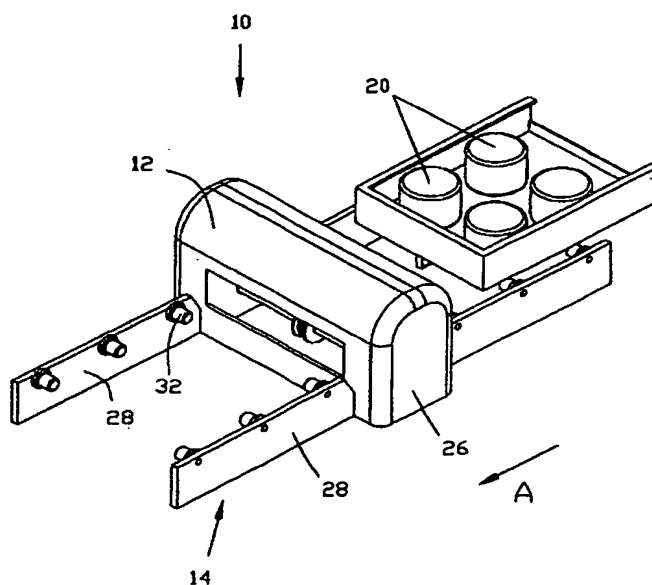
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: GUIDE UNIT FOR POSITIONING TRAYS IN EDIBLE INK PRINTER



(57) Abstract: An apparatus for printing a visual image on food items (20) has a printing station provided with a printer (12) connected to the computer and having software for directly printing the image on the exposed surface of the food item. The printing station includes a frame, at least one tray receiving the food item and displaceably supported on the frame, a printer head and a guide mechanism operative to linearly displace the tray so that a distance between the printer head and the exposed surface of the food item remains uniform as the tray is displaced along the travel direction.